

July 29, 2020

Mr. Richard Jacobson, Environmental Protection Officer Town of Darien, CT 2 Renshaw Road Darien, CT 06820

RE: Brown Residence, 26 Peach Hill Road, Darien, CT - Map# 6, Lot# 129

Dear Mr. Jacobson,

Please find attached to this letter 12 copies of the following documents:

 Planting Plan, Drawing LP-1.0, prepared by Eckerson Design Associates, LLC, dated July 28, 2020

The Planting Plan shows new plantings both within and outside of the 50-foot upland review area, which is located in the eastern portion of the property. The plan also shows existing trees to be removed as a result of the proposed site development for the new single-family residence. All trees to be removed are located outside the 50-foot upland review area.

A four-rail paddock-styled fence is shown along the south, west and northern property lines. Portions of the fencing along the southern and northern property lines are proposed to be located in the upland review area. The northern fence line extends into the wetlands and terminates at the northeastern property corner adjacent to the neighbor's existing fence.

## **BUFFER PLANTINGS**

The purpose of the buffer plantings along the edge of the wetland is to mitigate the impact of the site development in general and the construction of the play field in particular.

The wetland area was identified and flagged by JMM Wetland Consulting Services, LLC and surveyed by Arcamone Land Surveyors, LLC. The wetland line is generally east of an existing row of large Burning Bush (Euonymous alata).

It is proposed to remove the row of invasive Burning Bush and replace them with a buffer planting that runs the length of the play field. The plant palette is comprised of a mixture of native trees, shrubs, ferns and perennials. Please refer to the plant lists on the drawing. The beds are arranged around a central, meandering pathway that will allow the family to walk around the perimeter of the play field.

To the south of the proposed play field it is proposed plant an evergreen screen for privacy. The proposed screening is half in the upland review area and half outside of it. The trees are primarily native species including Green Giant Arborvitae and American Holly.

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## **ORNAMENTAL PLANTINGS**

As part of the site development plan several existing trees are proposed to be removed. Their removal is necessitated by their location in relation to the proposed house and related site improvements. It is proposed to remove 11 existing trees.

To help mitigate the loss of the existing trees, 41 new ornamental and evergreen trees are proposed. The ratio of new trees to be planted to the removal of existing trees is almost 4:1.

Of particular note there are two large oaks, one located between the driveway and one east of the proposed Entry Court that we are making every effort to keep. An arborist will be engaged to direct best practices when working in their vicinity.

## **FENCING**

The proposed 4 rail fence is intended to define the property perimeter. Where it is proposed to be located within the wetland the bottom rail of the fence will be set approximately 6 inches off the ground.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bruce G. Eckerson, PLA, ASLA

Enc.

Cc: Mr. and Mrs. Brown